

# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY

## WRITTEN QUESTION

Mr Dunham

to Minister for Essential Services

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### Sewerage charges

The increase of 2.5% in water and sewerage charges was, to quote the Chief Minister, 'necessary to ensure that the business remains viable.'

Is this true?

Given that the measure of increasing charges will raise approximately \$800,000 - \$900,000 pa, and that the profit yield for this year is \$6 million above the norm:

- (a) Isn't the question of viability an exaggeration?
- (b) Couldn't the increase in charges have been absorbed by reducing the record profit to levels approximate to the average?

ANSWER